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ST. ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A N N U A L     R E P O R T  
.....  
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of the  
  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
  
and the  
  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
  
for the year  
  
1 9 4 7



ST.ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health  
for the year 1947

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1947, in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

I remain,  
Your obedient Servant,

A. H. HOLMES,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

|                                                                                                                               |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Area (Land and Inland Water) .. .. .                                                                                          | 23,057 acres |
| Population at Census 1931 (which includes<br>Meliden and part of Dyserth since<br>transferred to Prestatyn Urban District. .. | 7,873        |
| Population, Registrar-General's<br>Estimate 1947 .. .. .                                                                      | 7,463        |
| Number of inhabited houses according to<br>Rate Books .. .. .                                                                 | 2,242        |
| Rateable Value .. .. .                                                                                                        | £43,826      |
| Estimated product of a penny rate. .. ..                                                                                      | £180         |

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

WATER

Bodelwyddan, Rhuddlan and St.Asaph are supplied by the Rhyl Urban District Council's Undertaking.

Dyserth.The greater part of the parish is supplied by the Prestatyn Urban District Council's undertaking.

Brynïau, Dyserth, is supplied from the mains of the Holywell Rural District Council's undertaking as it is a high level area.

Bodfari is supplied by works constructed by the Council.

During 1947 the main source held out, two auxiliary sources dried up and one auxiliary source was found to be heavily contaminated.

Cwm is similarly supplied to Bodfari. One source (Aelwyd Ucha) fails completely during dry weather, and at such times the supply is augmented from the Birkenhead Corporation Supply, via Holywell R.D.C.

Tremeirchion is supplied by works constructed by the Council. The quantity is totally inadequate during dry weather, and during the year the services of the National Fire Service were utilised in order to pump water from a nearby stream so as to augment the supply.

Rhuallt is supplied by springs in the neighbourhood. After repairing a large fracture in the main, the quantity proved adequate and the quality to be satisfactory.

Waen is supplied from works constructed by the Council. The quantity has been sufficient during the year, but the mains are in a bad state and are not capable of conveying a sufficient supply to the consumers.

This parish is situated within the area to be supplied by the Rhyl Urban District Council's undertaking.

#### General Remarks

Consulting Engineers engaged by the Council are now working on a scheme for providing an adequate supply of water to the parishes of Bodfari, Cwm, Waen and Tremeirchion (including Rhuallt).

#### Properties supplied by the Council.

|              | <u>Total No.</u><br><u>of houses</u> | <u>No. supplied with water</u> |                       |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
|              |                                      | <u>(a) into houses</u>         | <u>(b) Standpipes</u> |
| Cwm          | 110                                  | 96                             | 6                     |
| Bodfari      | 122                                  | 76                             | 14                    |
| Tremeirchion | 174                                  | 104                            | 19                    |
| Waen         | 68                                   | 63                             | 3                     |

This amounts to 85% of the population in this area with a piped water supply. 10% supplied by Standpipes and the remaining 5% are without piped supply.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During the year Consulting Engineers have been engaged to prepare Sewerage Schemes for the following parishes:-

- (1) Bodelwyddan (Village)
- (2) Bodfari
- (3) Rhuddlan (renew sewers and construct disposal works)
- (4) Tremeirchion

Preliminary surveys have been made and, in the case of 1, 3 and 4, outline schemes have been accepted by the Council.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS

No action was found necessary during the year.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

In areas supplied by sewers only very few privies remain. In other parts 90% have privies with fixed receptacles and 10% with removal receptacles.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse is removed from all the parishes in the Rural District by the Council's own lorry.

#### SHOPS AND OFFICES

No action required during 1947.



## CAMPING SITES

The Maesgwilym Camp is now licensed for the summer months only, and the number of hutments is strictly limited by the Council. The water supply is satisfactory.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action necessary during the year.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no public baths or pools in this district.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

No action required during 1947.

## SCHOOLS

The Schools are closed when necessary during epidemics to prevent the spread of infectious disease, but no such action was necessary during the year.  
Oriol House Preparatory School was fumigated during vacation owing to sporadic outbreaks of scarlet fever there.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

during 1947 was as follows:-

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Children aged under five years       | 80 |
| " " between five and fifteen         | 6  |
| " receiving reinforcement injections | 5  |

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

All animals are slaughtered at the Public Abbatoir, Rhyl, which is the municipally controlled centre for the area.

## TUBERCULOSIS

The Welsh National Memorial Association provide for these cases at their sanatoria at Penyffordd and Llangwyfan. After care is provided by full time physicians and nurses and there is a dispensary in Rhyl.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

The nearest clinic for the treatment of these diseases is at Chester Royal Infirmary. The treatment is free and inclusive of travelling expenses.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The needs of the district are met by clinics at Rhyl and St.Asaph.

## SMALLPOX

In the event of an outbreak the Flintshire County Council accepts responsibility for the isolation and treatment of cases.

## DISINFECTION

When required for large articles such as bedding, the Sanitary Inspector arranges for this work to be carried out at the Isolation Hospital, St.Asaph.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES

These exist at the Public Health Laboratory at Conway. Seventeen examinations of raw water were made during 1947.

## DISINFESTATION

No personal applications were received during the year.

## DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN

Stocks are held at the District Council Offices for distribution to doctors when emergency supplies are required.

## HOUSING

During 1947 the following houses were completed and occupied:-

|    |             |
|----|-------------|
| 24 | at Dyserth  |
| 10 | at Rhuddlan |
| 18 | at St.Asaph |

In addition work was commenced on 24 houses and 8 flats at Rhuddlan, 6 houses at Bodfari and 6 houses at Cwm.

## ISOLATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During 1947 the following cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, St.Asaph, from the St.Asaph Rural District:-

|    |          |                       |
|----|----------|-----------------------|
| 22 | cases of | Scarlet Fever         |
| 2  | "        | " Puerperal Fever     |
| 2  | "        | " Erysipelas          |
| 1  | "        | " Cerebrospinal Fever |
| 1  | "        | " Paratyphoid Fever   |
| 3  | "        | " Polioencephalitis   |
| 1  | "        | " Poliomyelitis       |

## VITAL STATISTICS

### (A) BIRTH RATE

The total number of births registered in the district during 1947 as given by the Registrar General was 156, of which 81 were male and 75 female. This is an increase of 41 over 1946 figures and is attributable to the return of husbands from the Forces and improvement in housing conditions in the district. There were 6 illegitimate births, one male and five female.

The birth rate was thus 20.9 per 1000 of the resident population as compared with 20.5 per 1000 for England and Wales. There were 5 stillbirths.

(B) DEATH RATE

The total number of deaths registered in the district during 1947 as given by the Registrar General was 104, comprising 52 males and 52 females. This gives a death rate of 13.9 per 1000 of the resident population as compared with 12.0 for England and Wales.

The higher than average figure in this district is attributed to the large number of people living in retirement in proportion to the rest of the resident population.

(C) INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were 8 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, equivalent to a death rate of 51.3 per 1000 births, as compared with 41 per 1000 for England and Wales.

(D) INFECTIOUS DISEASES

139 cases of infectious disease were notified during 1947 consisting of:-

|                |    |                 |   |               |   |
|----------------|----|-----------------|---|---------------|---|
| Scarlet Fever  | 19 | Puerperal Fever | 2 | Erysipelas    | 3 |
| Pneumonia      | 16 | Diphtheria      | 1 | Paratyphoid   |   |
| Whooping Cough | 21 | Polio encephal- |   | Fever         | 1 |
| Measles        | 71 | itis            | 2 | Dysentery     | 1 |
|                |    | Poliomyelitis   | 1 | Cerebrospinal | 1 |
|                |    |                 |   | Fever         |   |

(E) ZYMOTIC MORTALITY

There were 3 deaths from influenza 1 from polioencephalitis, and 3 from pneumonia.

(F) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis giving a mortality rate of 0.13 per 1000 of the estimated population.

(G) TUBERCULOSIS (OTHER FORMS)

There was one death in this group.

(H) OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES

There were 6 deaths under this heading, equivalent to 0.78 per 1000 of the estimated population.

(J) DEATH RATE FROM CANCER

8 deaths from cancer were recorded, the mortality rate being 1.24 per 1000 of the estimated population.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1947  
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GENERAL INFORMATION

WATER SUPPLIES

Several more severe leakages in the mains were repaired during the year.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

Restrictions tightened considerably, resulting in a considerable increase of work. Several Conferences took place at various locations.

Licences for houses were issued as follows:-

8 houses at Dyserth for Messrs Johnson British Electric Ltd.  
2 " " for Mr Tudor Hughes.  
1 house near St. Asaph for Eryl Estate.  
1 house near Tremeirchion for Mr J. Corbishley.  
1 house at Rhuddlan for Mr W.E.V. Williams.  
2 bungalows at Terfyn for Messrs Rothwell Timber Company.

All these houses were for either key workers or agricultural workers.

INADEQUATELY HOUSED FAMILIES

24 families were housed in the ex-service Camp at Rhuddlan after repairs and adaptations had been carried out.

INSPECTIONS

|                                             |     |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| Total number of inspections and visits made | 976 |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

|                                                  |    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of cases inquired into, including Scabies | 20 |
| Number of houses disinfected                     | 19 |

DWELLINGS

|                                 |    |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Number made fit for habitation  | 32 |
| Number of cases of overcrowding | 46 |

DRAINAGE ETC.

|                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| Number laid or relaid                   | 68 |
| Number cleaned, trapped and ventilated  | 12 |
| Number of new water closets             | 40 |
| Number of repairs to water closets      | 45 |
| Number of new privies and ashpits       | -- |
| Number of privies converted into W.C's. | -- |

SCAVENGING

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Number of Pail Closets emptied | 1720  |
| Number of Ashbins emptied      | 40015 |
| Number of Ashpits emptied      | 520   |
| Number of Loads of Refuse      | 702   |
| Number of tons of Refuse       | 1407  |



## REFUSE

|                                          |    |
|------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of accumulations removed          | 16 |
| Number of notices in respect of new bins | 1  |

## REFUSE TIPS

The Tip at Rhuddlan was closed at the request of the Flintshire County Council.

## WATER

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Number of new places supplied    | 2   |
| Number of repairs, fittings etc. | 160 |

## DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS

|                                                  |     |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of new dairies erected                    | 2   |
| Number of cowsheds erected                       | 5   |
| Number of dairies repaired                       | 4   |
| Number of cowsheds repaired                      | 12  |
| Number of persons registered                     | 160 |
| Number of registered places in use and inspected | 160 |

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Number dealt with | -- |
|-------------------|----|

## ANIMALS

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Number of cases causing nuisance | -- |
|----------------------------------|----|

## LODGING HOUSES

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Number registered | -- |
|-------------------|----|

## CLERICAL WORK

|                                             |      |
|---------------------------------------------|------|
| Number of letters received                  | 1500 |
| Number of letters written                   | 1700 |
| Number of Preliminary Notices served        | 10   |
| Number of Preliminary Notices complied with | 10   |

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

|                                           |    |
|-------------------------------------------|----|
| Number of abatement notices served        | 2  |
| Number of abatement notices complied with | 2  |
| Number of prosecutions                    | -- |

## FOOD AND DRUGS

Details of food certified as unfit for human consumption:-

| <u>Description</u> | <u>No.of tins</u> | <u>Weight</u> | <u>Dozen</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Beef sausage       |                   | 19 lbs        |              |
| Sweet pickle       |                   | 30 oz.        |              |
| Dried Peas         |                   | 662 lbs       |              |
| Mackerel (Tin)     | 4                 |               |              |
| Oranges            |                   | 17 lbs        |              |
| Margarine          |                   | 38 lbs        |              |
| Dried Apples       |                   | 8 lbs         |              |
| Pears              |                   | 6 lbs         |              |
| Potatoes           |                   | 140 lbs       |              |
| Dates              |                   | 174½ lbs      |              |
| Marmalade          |                   | 6½ lbs        |              |

FOOD AND DRUGS (Contd.)

| <u>Description</u> | <u>No. of tins</u> | <u>Weight</u>         | <u>Dozen</u>    |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Swedes             |                    | 22 cwt                |                 |
| Haddock            |                    | 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ stone |                 |
| Flour              |                    | 700 lbs               |                 |
| Liver              |                    | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs   |                 |
| Salmon             | 4                  |                       |                 |
| Jam                | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Milk               | 27                 |                       |                 |
| Stewed Steak       | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Meat Roll          | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Bacon              |                    | 137 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs |                 |
| Tea                |                    | 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs  |                 |
| Butter             |                    | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs  |                 |
| M & V              | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Tongue             | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Irish Stew         | 2                  |                       |                 |
| Potted Meat        | 8                  |                       |                 |
| Pilchards          | 2                  |                       |                 |
| Baked Beans        | 23                 |                       |                 |
| Peas               | 6                  |                       |                 |
| Beef               |                    | 20 lbs                |                 |
| Cod                |                    | 6 stone               |                 |
| Hake               |                    | 5 stone               |                 |
| Dried Apricots     |                    | 56 lbs                |                 |
| Plums              | 5                  |                       |                 |
| Minced Beef        | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Rabbits            |                    | 60 lbs                |                 |
| Eggs               |                    |                       | 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Cucumbers (2)      |                    |                       |                 |
| Onions             |                    | 35 lbs                |                 |
| Boiled Beetroot    | 2                  |                       |                 |
| Soup               | 10                 |                       |                 |
| Dried Milk         | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Sausage            | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Vegetables         | 2                  |                       |                 |
| Sardines           | 3                  |                       |                 |
| Beetroot           | 20                 |                       |                 |
| Carrots            | 2                  |                       |                 |
| Macaroni           | 1                  |                       |                 |
| Sugar              |                    | 6 lbs                 |                 |
| Veal Loaf          | 9                  |                       |                 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Particulars of samples purchased under the above Act in the St. Asaph District during the year ended 31st December, 1947. as supplied by the Police Superintendent, Rhyl.

| <u>Description of Samples</u> | <u>Number Taken.</u> | <u>Genuine</u> | <u>Caution</u> | <u>Conviction</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| New Milk                      | 19                   | 16             | 3              |                   |
| Bovril                        | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |
| Malt Vinegar                  | 2                    | 2              |                |                   |
| Oatmeal                       | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |
| Cake Flour                    | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |
| Ginger flavoured extract      | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |
| Fish Paste                    | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |
| Marzipan Mixture              | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |
| Heinz Sandwich Spread         | 1                    | 1              |                |                   |

# RAINFALL IN 1947

AT

YR ARDD, DENBIGH

|                | Total<br>Depth<br>Inches | Greatest<br>fall in<br>24 hours<br>Inches | Date | Number<br>of days with<br>.01 in.<br>or<br>more | .04 in.<br>or<br>more |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| January.....   | 2.92                     | .71                                       | 11   | 16                                              | 11                    |
| February.....  | 1.57                     | .58                                       | 25   | 11                                              | 6                     |
| March.....     | 4.83                     | .44                                       | 30   | 26                                              | 22                    |
| April.....     | 3.64                     | .86                                       | 23   | 15                                              | 11                    |
| May.....       | 2.40                     | .39                                       | 12   | 20                                              | 12                    |
| June.....      | 2.61                     | .77                                       | 14   | 17                                              | 11                    |
| July.....      | 2.75                     | 1.11                                      | 18   | 14                                              | 9                     |
| August.....    | .36                      | .33                                       | 3    | 3                                               | 1                     |
| September..... | 2.00                     | .69                                       | 20   | 14                                              | 12                    |
| October.....   | .41                      | .13                                       | 29   | 9                                               | 3                     |
| November.....  | 3.87                     | .69                                       | 11   | 23                                              | 20                    |
| December.....  | 1.61                     | .33                                       | 5    | 20                                              | 12                    |

Total 29.97

Average total depth for past 10 years - 29.93 in.

## Rain Gauge

Diameter of funnel - 5 inches  
Height of top above ground - 12 inches  
Height of ground above Sea Level - 195 feet

## RHYL'S RAINFALL - 10 YEARS AVERAGE.

Average Rainfall for 10 years, in inches, is as follows:-

|      |   |       |      |   |       |
|------|---|-------|------|---|-------|
| 1938 | - | 28.31 | 1943 | - | 26.14 |
| 1939 | - | 27.01 | 1944 | - | 26.02 |
| 1940 | - | 29.32 | 1945 | - | 19.66 |
| 1941 | - | 19.73 | 1946 | - | 29.30 |
| 1942 | - | 22.90 | 1947 | - | 29.93 |

Yearly average for 10 years 25.83

